

at the St. Thomas Episcopal Church on Caroline Street, which still stands today.

The county continued to thrive into the twentieth century, although fire destroyed much of the eastern part of the town of Orange in 1908. However, many of the buildings constructed shortly after the fire still remain. In fact, Orange was well-known for its silk mill, which produced many of the parachutes used

by U.S. troops during World War II. The silk mill finally closed in the 1970s, but the building still remains and is used by local businesses.

Orange County residents will celebrate and honor their heritage and 275 years of history with events and activities throughout the year. In conjunction with the Fall Fiber Festival at Montpelier, the Gordonsville Street Festival, and other county-wide events, the town of Or-

ange will have a Blues Festival on Main Street on October 3rd to mark the anniversary.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the fine citizens of Orange County as they celebrate this anniversary and wishing them the best for their continued growth and success.